

# Saratoga County Soil & Water Conservation District

50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, New York 12020

(518) 885-6900 Fax: (518) 885-3116

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm



## CONSERVATION CONNECTION

Winter/Spring 2014

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Donald Monica - Chairman

Victoria Garlanda - Vice Chairman

Preston Allen

Philip Griffen

Jay Matthews

Steven Ropitzky

Thomas Wood

Grange Representative

At Large Member

Legislative Member

At Large Farmer Member

At Large Member

Farm Bureau Representative

Legislative Member

### STAFF

District Manager:

District Technician:

Office Manager:

Dustin Lewis

Scott Monica

Andrea James

dustinlewissaratogaswcd@gmail.com

scottmonicasaratogaswcd@gmail.com

andreajamessaratogaswcd@gmail.com

Cell: (518) 729-8185

Cell: (518) 701-6052

### NRCS STAFF

Thomas Bielli

Annie Green

District Conservationist

Resource Conservationist

## Saratoga Regional Envirothon 2014

The Saratoga Regional Envirothon is a one day competition for high school students. The students are tested in five categories: aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife and a current environmental issue. This year's current issue is: Sustainable Local Agriculture/Locally Grown. The Envirothon teaches students about the environment and how they can become involved in protecting our natural resources, now as students, and later as adults. The students compete as a five member team. Each of the two county winning teams will also receive team awards and will have earned the right to represent their county at the State Envirothon.

This year's event will be held at the Saratoga State Park, Orenda Pavillion, on Tuesday May 6, 2014, 8:30 am – 2:00 pm. Again we will be welcoming high school students from Saratoga and Fulton County schools.

---

# **TREE & SHRUB PROGRAM 2014**

Hello everyone. It is that time of year again, time for our annual tree and shrub sale. We have plenty of low cost bare root seedlings and transplants, as well as fruit bushes and flowering ground covers. So why not help the environment and enhance the beauty of your property and plant some trees this spring? You can get a brochure and order form at any Stewarts Shops or Town Hall in Saratoga County, or at our office at 50 West High St., Ballston Spa. You can also download one by going to: [www.saratogacountyny.gov](http://www.saratogacountyny.gov) , clicking on departments and going to Soil and Water Conservation District. E-mail: TreeandShrub@gmail.com.

## **Sale Days Are:**

**FRIDAY APRIL 25<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

**and**

**SATURDAY APRIL 26<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 am – 12:00 Noon**

## **Last Day to Order:**

**Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup>**

~ 2 ~

---

---

# **CONSERVATION FARM of the YEAR AWARD**

The Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District has rekindled its Conservation Farm of the Year award with the new AEM Conservation Farm of the Year Award. We are very pleased to be able to partner with Farm Bureau to present this award at their annual Rural Urban Dinner.

This award is given to a farm that has shown a dedication to the conservation of the natural resources of Saratoga County. Farms that may be considered for this award must have participated in The District's Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program. Through this program farmers are able to identify areas of their farm where conservation practices could minimize their impact on the environment as well as possibly improving productivity through the efficient use of nutrients. Conservation practices can range from something as basic as planting a cover crop on bare fields to protect soil over the winter to something as involved as the construction of a Vegetated Treatment Area to collect and treat the runoff from heavily used areas. When done with the environment in mind farming can be a preferred land use and farms that participate in the AEM Program know this.

This year's AEM Conservation Farmer of the Year award is being presented to Welcome Stock Farm. The Pecks of Welcome Stock Farm run a dairy farm in Northumberland. As a CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation) Welcome Stock is constantly striving to reduce its impact on the environment while producing quality milk. The Pecks have worked with the Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District for years to develop and implement plans and practices that are designed to maximize production while protecting the county's diverse natural resources.

The award will be presented to Welcome Stock Farm at the Rural Urban Dinner on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. The dinner will be held at Panza's Restaurant at 510 Route 9P Saratoga Springs. The cost is \$35 per person/buffet meal. Come, enjoy a good meal and meet your farmer.

**Rural Urban Dinner**  
**Saturday, March 29, 2014**  
**Starting at 6:30 p.m.**

**Panza's Restaurant**  
**510 Route 9P**  
**Saratoga Springs**  
**\$35 per person/buffet meal**

**RSVP to regional office**  
**before March 21**  
**[1-866-995-7300](tel:1-866-995-7300)/[eny@nyfb.org](mailto:eny@nyfb.org)**

♦ Come & bring a friend.

♦ Holding a basket raffle & seeking local products.

Partnering with Saratoga County Soil & Water awarding conservationist of the year.

# SARATOGA COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

50 West High Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Phone 885-6900

## SPRING 2014 FISH STOCKING PROGRAM

### AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

A Fish Stocking Permit must be obtained for each pond from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) prior to obtaining fish.\* Contact our office ASAP to receive the application form or check online.

SPECIES	SIZE	PRICE	# FISH	TOTAL COST
Barley Straw Bales		\$6.00 per Bale		
Bass, Largemouth	4 - 6"	\$3.30 per Fish (1-24) \$3.25 per Fish (25-49) \$3.20 per Fish (50 +) (Sales Tax Included in Price)		
Bass, Largemouth	6 - 8"	\$4.90 per Fish (1-24) \$4.80 per Fish (24-49) \$4.75 per Fish (50 +) (Sales Tax Included in Price)		
Fathead Minnows		\$18.00 per 100 Fish (Sales Tax Included in Price)		
Trout, Rainbow	4 - 6"	\$2.75 per Fish (1-49) \$2.60 per Fish (50-99) \$2.50 per Fish (100 +) (Sales Tax Included in Price)		
Channel Catfish	6 - 8"	\$2.75 per Fish (1-49) \$2.70 per Fish (50-99) \$2.65 per Fish (100 +) (Sales Tax Included in Price)		
Triploid Grass Carp*	7 - 9"	\$23.00 per Fish (Non-Taxable Fish)		

**VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER ACCEPTED**

**TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

\*Special DEC permit is required for Grass Carp, application forms are available from our office or check online.

These Carp are used as biological control for submerged rooted aquatic vegetation.

### TYPICAL POND CHARACTERISTICS TO SUPPORT FISH:

	BASS	TROUT	MINNOWS	GRASS CARP	CATFISH
Pond Depth:	6' Minimum	10' Minimum	6' +/-	6' Minimum	6' Minimum
Summer Pond Temperatures:	75 - 85° F	70°F Maximum	75 - 85° F	75 - 85° F	
Forage Fish:	Minnows	Not Recommended	-----	-----	
Stocking Rate:	100 per Acre	600 per Acre	800-1000/Acre	Based upon DEC Permit	

*Trout usually do not reproduce in ponds, so restocking is necessary in 2-3 years*

### YOU MUST PRE-ORDER AND PRE-PAY FOR YOUR FISH.

PLEASE ORDER BY MONDAY, MAY 12th. DISTRIBUTION IS SET FOR FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014

Fish will be distributed at the parking lot in front of Saratoga County Building #5 (50 West High Street) in Ballston Spa. Pickup is planned for **9:30 AM**. We will call if that changes. You must be able to pick up your order at the designated date and time. For Bass, Catfish, Minnows or Carp bring a large clean container, such as a garbage can, 2/3 filled with non chlorinated water. Water from the pond is best. DO NOT USE CHLORINATED WATER. Trout will be bagged with water and oxygen – bring a cardboard box

Make check payable to **Saratoga County SWCD**. Mail or bring with this sheet to the above address. Phone orders will be accepted if paying with credit card. Please make sure that we have your order by May 12, 2014.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ CREDIT CARD #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CARD TYPE: VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER EXP. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 DIGIT CODE ON BACK: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

I realize that the Saratoga County Soil & Water Conservation District is not responsible for any loss of fish occurring during transport from the pick-up location to the landowner's pond and that I am responsible for obtaining the proper Fish Stocking Permit License for my pond.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## “WONDERS OF WILDLIFE”

By Annie Green  
Resource Conservationist

Just about everyone enjoys seeing wildlife in their backyard or in the countryside. We as individuals, families and the general public should take the time to apply basic conservation practices that will benefit animals and birds. Wildlife improvement can be as simple installing a wetland or a small pond to encourage backyard wildlife habitat improvement. To learn more about conservation practices that benefits wildlife contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to receive free literature.

**Soil Survey on the Web**  
**<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>**

**SARATOGA COUNTY FAIR**

**July 22 – 27, 2014**

**[www.saratogacountyfair.org](http://www.saratogacountyfair.org)**

**Look for our booth.**

**W**ater **Q**uality **C**oordinating **C**ommittee

Monthly Meetings – Second Thursday of the Month, 5:30 PM, 50 West High Street, Ballston Spa

## **The Pond Guidebook**

**Copies are available at the SWCD office at a cost of \$18.00/each (tax included)**

**Contents: Getting to Know Your Pond – Pond Construction and Maintenance – Fish Management – Aquatic Plants and Weeds – Attracting and Managing Wildlife – Recreation, Safety, and Fire Suppression – Assessment Form – Sources of Maintenance Supplies**

## **BLUEBIRD BOXES FOR SALE**

**The locally built boxes are made from rough sawn pine and designed to attract the Eastern Bluebird.  
They are available at the SWCD office at a cost of \$15 each (includes tax).**